In the claims:

1. **(Previously presented)** A method for screening for the presence of a clinically relevant amount of bacteria in donor blood or blood product from a donor mammal for transfer into a recipient mammal, comprising: contacting a sample of the donor blood or blood product with a set of pan-generic antibodies, wherein the set of antibodies comprises antibodies that specifically bind to a Gram-negative bacterial antigen and antibodies that specifically bind to a Gram-positive bacterial antigen, detecting binding of the set of antibodies to the sample, wherein binding indicates the presence of a clinically relevant amount of bacteria in the donor blood or blood product and no binding indicates the absence of a clinically relevant amount of bacteria in the donor blood or blood product from the donor mammal, wherein the blood or blood product determined to have less than 1×10^6 colony forming units (CFU) per mL of bacteria is useful for transfer to the recipient mammal.

2. **(Cancelled)**

3. **(Original)** The method of claim 1, wherein the donor blood or blood product is selected from the group consisting of whole blood, leukocytes, hematopoietic stem cells, platelets, red blood cells, plasma, and serum.

4. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 1, wherein the antibodies that specifically bind to the Gram-negative bacterial antigen specifically bind to the lipopolysaccharide structure of the Gram-negative bacteria.

5. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 1, wherein the antibodies that specifically bind to the Gram-positive bacterial antigen specifically bind to the lipoteichoic acid structure of the Gram-positive bacteria.

6. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 1, wherein the set of antibodies is immobilized on a solid-phase support.

6 7. **(Previously presented)** A method for screening for the presence of a clinically relevant amount of Gram-positive bacteria in donor blood product from a donor mammal for transfer into a recipient mammal, comprising: contacting a sample of the donor blood or blood product with a set of pan-generic antibodies, wherein the set of antibodies comprises antibodies that specifically bind to a Gram-positive bacterial antigen, detecting binding of the set of antibodies to the sample, wherein binding indicates the presence of a clinically relevant amount of Gram-positive bacteria in the donor blood or blood product and no binding indicates the absence of a clinically relevant amount of Gram-positive bacteria in the donor blood or blood product, and wherein the donor blood or blood product from the donor mammal determined to have less than 1×10^6 CFU per mL of Gram-positive bacteria is useful for transfer to the recipient mammal.

7 8. **(Previously presented)** A method for screening for the presence of a clinically relevant amount of Gram-negative bacteria in donor blood product from a donor mammal for transfer to a recipient mammal, comprising: contacting a sample of the donor blood or blood product with a set of pan-generic antibodies, wherein the set of antibodies comprises antibodies that specifically bind to a Gram-negative bacterial antigen, detecting binding of the set of antibodies to the sample, wherein binding indicates the presence of a clinically relevant amount of Gram-negative bacteria in the donor blood or blood product and no binding indicates the absence of a clinically relevant amount of Gram-negative bacteria in the donor blood or blood product, and wherein the donor blood or blood product from the donor mammal determined to have less than 1×10^6 CFU per mL of Gram-negative bacteria is useful for transfer to the recipient mammal.

9-13. **(Cancelled)**

8 14. **(Currently amended)** A method for screening for the presence of a clinically relevant amount of bacteria in a donor tissue from a donor mammal for transfer to a recipient mammal, wherein the donor tissue is stored in a fluid, comprising contacting a sample of the fluid with a set of pan-generic antibodies, wherein the set of antibodies comprises antibodies that specifically bind to a Gram-negative bacterial antigen and antibodies that specifically bind to a Gram-positive bacterial antigen, detecting binding of the set of antibodies to the sample, wherein binding indicates the presence of a clinically relevant amount of bacteria in the donor tissue and no binding indicates the absence of a clinically relevant amount of bacteria in the donor tissue,

and wherein the donor ~~blood or blood product~~tissue from the donor mammal determined to have less than 1 x 10^6 CFU per mL of bacteria is useful for transfer to the recipient mammal.

9 15. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 14, wherein the donor tissue determined to have an absence of a clinically relevant amount of bacteria is transferred to the second mammal.

10 16. **(Original)** The method of claim 14, wherein the donor tissue is selected from the group consisting of lung, heart, liver, skin, kidney, pancreas, spleen, and bone marrow.

11 17. **(Currently amended)** A method for screening for the presence of a clinically relevant amount of Gram-positive bacteria in a donor tissue from a donor mammal for transfer to a recipient mammal, wherein the donor tissue is stored in a fluid, comprising contacting a sample of fluid with a set of pan-generic antibodies, wherein the set of antibodies comprises antibodies that specifically bind to a Gram-positive bacterial antigen, detecting binding of the set of antibodies to the sample, wherein binding indicates the presence of a clinically relevant amount of Gram-positive bacteria in the donor tissue and no binding indicates the absence of a clinically relevant amount of Gram-positive bacteria in the donor tissue, and wherein the donor ~~blood~~ tissue ~~or blood product~~ from the donor mammal determined to have less than 1 x 10^6 CFU per mL of Gram-positive bacteria is useful for transfer to the recipient mammal.

12 18. **(Previously presented)** A method for screening for the presence of a clinically relevant amount of Gram-negative bacteria in a donor tissue from a donor mammal for transfer to a recipient mammal, wherein the donor tissue is stored in a fluid, comprising contacting a sample of the fluid with a set of pan-generic antibodies, wherein the set of antibodies comprises antibodies that specifically bind to a Gram-negative bacterial antigen, detecting binding of the set of antibodies to the Gram-negative bacterial antigen in the sample, wherein binding indicates the presence of a clinically relevant amount of Gram-negative bacteria in the donor tissue and no binding indicates the absence of a clinically relevant amount of Gram-negative bacteria in the donor tissue, and wherein the donor tissue from the donor mammal determined to have less than 1 x 10^6 CFU per mL of Gram-negative bacterial is useful for transfer to the recipient mammal.

19-25. **(Cancelled)**

13 26. **(Previously presented)** The method of any of claims 1, 7, 8, 14, 17, and 18, wherein the set of antibodies are detectably labeled with a reporter molecule.

14 27. **(Currently amended)** The method of claim 26, wherein said reporter molecule is selected from the group consisting of a molecule with enzymatic activity, a radio-labeled molecule, a fusion molecule, a fluorogenic molecule, a metal sol, a particle, a chromatic molecule, ~~or~~ and a molecule that is specifically bound by a secondary agent.

28-29. **(Cancelled)**

15 30. **(Currently amended)** The method of any of claims 1, 7, 8, 14, 17, and 18, wherein the clinically effective amount of bacteria is greater than 1 x 10^5 CFU/ml of blood, ~~or~~ blood product, or tissue.

16 31. **(Currently amended)** The method of any of claims 1, 7, 8, 14, 17, and 18, wherein the clinically effective amount of bacteria is greater than 1 x 10^4 CFU/ml of blood, ~~or~~ blood product, or tissue.

12 32. **(Currently amended)** The method of any of claims 1, 7, 8, 14, 17, and 18, wherein the clinically effective amount of bacteria is greater than 1 x 10^3 CFU/ml of blood, ~~or~~ blood product, or tissue.

18 33. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 27, wherein the enzymatic molecule is selected from the group consisting of horseradish peroxidase, alkaline phosphatase, and β-galactosidase.

19 34. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 26, wherein said reporter molecule is bound to the binding agent by intermolecular association.

20 35. **(Currently amended)** The method any of claims 1, 7, 8, 14, 17, and 18 further comprising the step of transferring the blood, ~~or~~ blood product, or tissue to a recipient mammal.